

April 24, 2012
Board of Selectmen's meeting

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; Residents and members of the press.

Selectman David Muller joined the meeting by telephone

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. Copies are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available online on the Town website.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance-

Discussion/Decision regarding acceptance of a backstop extension and a batting cage for Bisceglie #3 Weston Little League- Joe Cina -Joe Cina said they are proposing a gift of a backstop extension as well as a batting cage for Bisceglie #3 field. They have already done Bisceglie #1 and #2. They are also contributing \$5,000 toward the cost of the infield renovation. The backstop extension is \$5,000 and the batting cage is \$7,000 so the total project will be \$17,000. Ms. Weinstein asked if he wanted the Board to accept the gift of the infield tonight so that he did not have to come back. Mr. Cina said yes.

Ms. Weinstein thanked Weston Little League for their generosity to the Town. She wants to make sure that the hard gifts have no cost associated with them that the Town needs to bear. Mr. Cina said they would assume responsibility for not only the initial installation but also the ongoing maintenance.

Mr. Tracey asked if there were any Planning & Zoning or land use approval that was required. Mr. Cina said that it was approved by Parks and Recreation. They did talk to Conservation and Building when they built the B2-B3 shed. Ms. Weinstein asked Mr. Cina to have Dave Ungar talk to the Building Department before they purchase and install the backstop extension and the batting cage.

Mr. Tracey said subject to any approval necessary from the Building Department, he moved to approve a gift of a backstop extension with an estimated cost \$5,000 and a batting cage with an estimated cost of \$7,000 for Bisceglie #3 and the infield restoration for \$5,000 all from Weston Little League. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding project management for the Windows and Doors project at the Weston Middle School- Mr. Tracey said we are undertaking a very significant project with over a 2 million dollar cost. It is a complicated project which requires multiple phases and has to be done under a limited defined time period. He wants to make sure we know, as a Board, what the plan was for managing the project and specifically, who would be responsible for ensuring that the project proceeds in the proper time period. The payments on the project are not to be made unless those approvals are given.

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Ms. Weinstein said in the contract, there is a "time is of the essence clause" which Mr. Tracey had suggested. Mr. Secondino said he didn't think that he could finish the project in total during the summer months but he feels that he can absolutely finish the windows part of the project. Both the school and the Building Committee are happy with that. They have defined substantial completion as the windows portion of the project. In the contract, there is a penalty to Mr. Secondino if he doesn't complete that portion of the project and there is a bonus if he completes the entire project by the August 26th date.

For oversight, they did talk to Kaestle Boos about having a different project manager and they have confirmed today that there is someone else that the Building Committee will be meeting with at their next meeting to replace Richard Kirby. Eagle Environmental who did the initial report for us will be overseeing the PCB and abatement portion of the work.

The Building Committee met last night and they feel that they need oversight. Carl Geodeke who was originally hired to do the oversight, has resigned from the project and the Building Committee has some names to replace him. Ms. Weinstein said like Mr. Tracey, both she and Tom agree that the whole project management piece needs to be supervised.

Mr. Tracey asked who from within Town Hall was going to be responsible for the project. Ms. Weinstein said the owner representative reports to the Building Committee and to the Town Administrator. Mr. Tracey asked that we leave this item on the agenda.

Discussion/decision regarding the Mission Statement for the Select Committee for the Management of Lachat property. Mr. Muller asked if this was going to be a committee that takes us through project oversight or was it really to focus on getting ideas together. Depending on what it was, two years could be a long time. Ms. Weinstein said she was thinking it would be through the completion or at least the initiation of the completion of what we are going to do.

Mr. Tracey said he thought that this was the right approach. Charging the committee initially with proposing ideas and having an option to ask the committee to oversee them is exactly the right approach because until we see the ideas we won't know if this is the right committee to implement them. Mr. Tracey asked if the committee would have oversight of the Farmhouse project. Ms. Weinstein said because it is a Town facility she feels it is important for the Town to maintain control of that project. She left the mission statement broad enough so that the committee can come vet the ideas. Because some of the ideas that they are proposing may change the look of the Farmhouse, and because she wants to make sure that we are completely transparent, anything that we are proposing will come before the Selectmen.

At this point we want to shore up the foundation of the house and the "Friends of Lachat" have agreed to donate the money to the town for that purpose. They have spoken to Town Attorney Pat Sullivan to draw up a formal agreement between the Town and "Friend of

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Lachat" so we have a full understanding of what the relationship is between 501c3 and the Town as well as what the purpose of the funds are.

The Town will maintain control of the project and will sign all the contracts for the property. We have given Bob Hatch the go ahead to start with the preliminary plans of what we need to do for the structural renovation. It will be bid out, going through whatever Town process we need to do to ensure that we are getting the best possible price and the best quality construction.

Ms. Baldwin asked if someone wants to donate for a specific thing like a garden etc. could they have a separate fund. Ms. Weinstein said we can structure it however they are comfortable structuring it.

It was decided that the name of the committee would be "The Select Committee for the Oversight of the Lachat Property". Mr. Tracey moved that to accept the mission statement as presented. (See attached) Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Request for property tax refunds:

Barbara Mc Rae	\$887.64
Nissan Infiniti-LT	<u>\$326.78</u>
	\$1,214.42

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the property tax refunds in the amount of \$1,214.42 as listed on the April 24, 2012 Board of Selectmen's agenda. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Open Items

Updates

Grants- Gayle Weinstein- No new news

Emergency Preparedness- Ms. Weinstein will be attending statewide emergency preparedness training on May 1st through May 2nd which is being organized by the CCM. They will have a statewide conversation about emergency preparedness procedures and what the State has been doing. On a local level we are still collecting block captains and neighborhood captains.

Regionalization- The surrounding communities have been busy with their budgets so this will have to wait until after the budget season.

Legislative update- The Zoning Enforcement Officer legislation that they were working on has passed through the judiciary committee and is now on the senate calendar. They think they will get that passed this year.

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The pension legislation that they have been working on, the House leadership does not necessarily want to bring it to vote even though it passed unanimously through the labor committee. She will be in Hartford tomorrow and she will be trying to reach out to the House leadership to see if there is anything they can do to push it along.

Discussion/approval of the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of April 5, 2012.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2012 Board of Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Any other business to properly come before the meeting- Mr. Tracey said he could not attend the May 3rd meeting and he asked if we could move the meeting. Ms. Weinstein said yes and we would get a date after she checks her calendar.

At 8:00pm Ms. Weinstein moved to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a potential land acquisition. Mr. Muller seconded but was not going to participate in the executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session-Potential land acquisition – Pat Sullivan

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito
Administrative Assistant
Approved 5/17/12